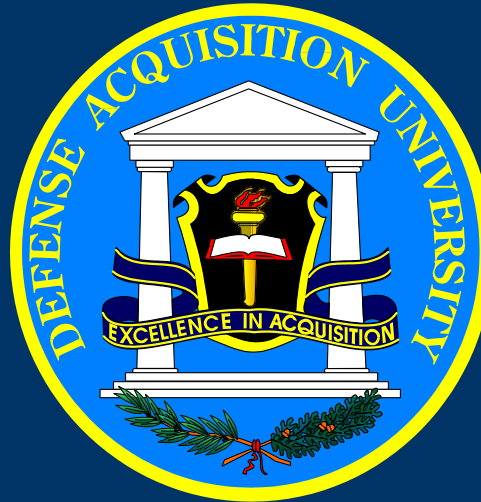


# DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY



**BCF 211**

**Acquisition Business Management Course**

**Briefing to the  
Business Managers Conference  
June 13, 2000**

# Course Description

- **Two-part “hybrid” course utilizing web-based and classroom instruction**
- **Web-based portion (BCF 211A): Students review material from introductory level prerequisite courses**
- **Classroom portion (BCF 211B): Students apply knowledge of fundamentals to address common tasks and problems encountered in financial management of acquisition programs**

# Target Audience

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- **Intermediate-level personnel with duties related to financial management of acquisition programs (generally GS-9 to GS-12 and military officers O-1 to O-4)**

# Course Content - BCF 211A

- **38 Enabling Learning Objectives (ELO) divided into three groups:**
  - **Group 1: Program Parameters, Program Cost, Reporting Requirements (EV), and Acquisition Policy**
  - **Group 2: Program Budget, Programming, Budget Exhibits, Budget Reviews, Congressional Enactment**
  - **Group 3: Budget Execution, Obligations and Expenditures, Propriety of Funds, Basic Contracting Concepts**
- **Review material provided for each ELO**
- **Additional references provided (full teaching notes, web links to Deskbook and FMR)**
- **Material is text and simple graphics (no animation or sound)**

# **Student Assessments - BCF 211A**

- **Multiple-choice tests with one question per enabling learning objective (ELO) covered**
- **Up to 3 attempts permitted to achieve mastery (100%) on each test**
- **Immediate feedback on test results**
- **Links provided to material for remediation prior to next test attempt**
- **Only objective(s) missed on prior test attempt are re-tested**

# BCF 211A Demo

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# Course Content - BCF 211B

- **Course follows a single program (JUNGLE) over the course of ~6 years as it encounters various problems/issues related to cost estimating, earned value, and funds management**
- **In each lesson (12 total), students are given a scenario and related tasking(s) requiring one or more of the following:**
  - **Identification of facts, assumptions and issues;**
  - **Identification of additional information required that is not included in the scenario;**
  - **Completion of a form, exhibit, or memo;**
  - **Briefing of findings, conclusions, and recommendations**

# **Course Content - BCF 211B (cont.)**

- **Students must use Excel spreadsheets provided in several lessons to prepare solutions**
- **Students work in groups to complete most taskings**
  - **Groups are reassigned daily to promote exchange of experiences**
- **Guest speaker from OSD Comptroller Investment directorate addresses budget analyst perspective and current budget issues**



# **Student Assessments - BCF 211B**

- **Pass/fail assessments of student progress**
  - **Individual:**
    - **Completion of budget exhibits (quality & quantity)**
  - **Group:**
    - **Completion of reprogramming request (quality)**
    - **Presentations of group results for 8 exercises**
- **Self and peer assessment of teamwork in selected group exercises**

# **Instructor Role - BCF 211B**

- **Facilitate student activities in class (no lecture)**
  - Clarify information provided
  - Provide guidance
  - Simulate sources for information not available in scenario upon student request
  - Lead discussion of student briefs on scenarios
- **Evaluate student progress**

# BCF 211B Demo

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# **Lesson Breakdown - BCF 211B**

- **43 Enabling Learning Objectives (ELO) divided into 12 lessons:**
  - **Program Parameters**
  - **Program Cost**
  - **Program Budget**
  - **Programming**
  - **Budget Exhibits**
  - **Budget Review**
  - **Congressional Enactment**
  - **Reporting Requirements (EV)**
  - **Reprogramming**
  - **Obligations and Expenditures**
  - **Propriety of Funds**
  - **Basic Contracting Concepts / Acquisition Policy**

# Student Feedback

- **Very positive - students like course format**
  - Most students liked the overall “hybrid” structure because it allowed them to review the prerequisite material at their own pace
  - Some students said they didn’t have sufficient time to do 211A during work hours
  - Virtually all students liked the “hands-on” exercises and group interaction in 211B and felt they learned much more this way compared to straight lecture course
  - “...one of the best classes I have ever attended. The interchange of ideas, varied activities (Jeopardy, e.g.), group work, computer work - everything made this an optimum learning experience as well as an enjoyable one.” - ABMC 99-005 Student

# What's Next?

- **Course update to incorporate DoD 5000 series rewrite**
- **Course material/scenarios to be changed/added to address contract modification from a BFM perspective**
- **Above changes to be implemented in first offering of FY01 (Nov 00)**
- **BCF 211 will become prerequisite for BCF 301 and mandatory for Level 2 certification for all BCEFM career field personnel in FY02 (currently an assignment-specific Level 2 “elective”)**